



# JERRY PETROWSKI

## WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Senator Petrowski's Bill on 911 Dispatcher Assisted CPR Passes State Senate**

**MADISON, WI...**Today, in a bi-partisan vote, the Senate passed Assembly Bill 654 authored by Senator Jerry Petrowski (*R-Marathon*). This bill ensures that all callers in the state, regardless of location, are able to receive instructions from a dispatcher on how to perform CPR while EMS/first responders are in route.

"When someone suffers a cardiac arrest, their chance of survival decreases every minute that they don't receive CPR," said Sen. Petrowski. "This legislation is especially important in rural areas where it can take longer for first responders to arrive. The last thing we want is for a caller, or dispatcher for that matter, to have to standby helplessly when they could be actively saving a life."

AB 654 requires public safety answering points (PSAP) to provide, in appropriate circumstances, telephonic assistance on administering CPR. The bill also requires the Department of Health Services to distribute grants or money for the purpose of training dispatchers to provide CPR instruction over the phone. Under the bill, every PSAP must either 1) have dispatchers trained and certified to provide telephonic instruction on administering CPR to a person who has called 911; or 2) transfer callers to a PSAP that can provide such instruction.

"Providing CPR coaching over the phone during a 911 call saves lives, and this legislation makes that possible everywhere in Wisconsin," said Sen. Petrowski. "I thank my Senate colleagues for their support of this bill, which is a simple, common-sense way to protect the lives of all Wisconsin residents."

As AB 654 has already been passed by the Assembly, the bill now awaits Governor Walker's signature.

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